

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

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Whole No. 266

The Pseudonyms of Edward S. Ellis

by Denis R. Rogers



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Preliminary Note

Most of the evidence given in this article is the fruit of the researches of others, to whom I must acknowledge my indebtedness. Although you will find my printed sources stated in the text, particular mention ought to be made right away, I feel, of Professor Albert Johannsen's "The House of Beadle & Adams" (University of Oklahoma Press: Norman: 1950). That work is an indispensable aid to the student of Edward S. Ellis.

Part 1—Proven Pseudonyms.

The following pen names were confirmed by Edward S. Ellis in letters to the Library of Congress in 1901:

J. G. Bethune. Colonel H. R. Gordon. Captain R. M. Hawthorne. Lieut. R. H. Jayne. Seward D. Lisle (an anagram of Edward S. Ellis). Geoffrey Randolph. (Source: "House of Beadle & Adams": Vol. II. P. 94). With the exception of Geoffrey Randolph all these pseudonyms have been verified by direct comparison of texts with reprints published under Ellis' own name.

J. H. Bethune: "Hands Up! or The Great Bank Burglary" by J. H. Bethune (Street & Smith: Magnet Detective Library No. 183: 1901) is a reprint of a serial entitled "Sh!" by

J. G. Bethune, M.D., which ran in "The Boy's Holiday" from 3/18/1890 to 5/13/1890 (Vol. 1. Nos. 10 to 18).

Professor Johannsen has proved by actual comparison of texts that the following were pen names of Edward S. Ellis:

Frank Faulkner: (Source: "House of Beadle & Adams": Vol. II. P. 107).

Seelin Robins: (Source: "House of Beadle & Adams": Vol. II. P. 241).

Rollo Robins Jr.: "Up the Tapajos or Adventures in Brazil" and its sequel: "Lost in the Wilds," which appeared in "The Golden Argosy" (Vol. 1. No. 3: 12/23/1882: to No. 14: 3/10/1883 and Vol. 1. No. 29: 6/23/1883: to No. 39: 9/1/1883) by Rollo Robins Jr. were reprinted in 1886 as Nos. 2 and 3 of Cassell & Company's cloth bound Great River Series by Edward S. Ellis.

E. A. St. Mox: "The Heart of Oak Detective or Zigzag's Full Hand" by E. A. St. Mox (Beadle's Dime Library No. 471: 11/2/1887) was reprinted in Ivers' Detective Series as by E. A. St. Mox (E. S. Ellis) (Source: "House of Beadle & Adams" Vol. II. P. 253) and again by The Arthur Westbrook Company of Cleveland, Ohio, as No. 32 of their Great American Detective Series by Edward S. Ellis (E. A. St. Mox)

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(Source: Copy of Great American Detective Series No. 32 in the Rogers collection).

Egbert S. Thomas: "The Campers Out or The Right Path and the Wrong", a serial by Egbert S. Thomas, which ran in "The Boy's Holiday" (Vol. 2: from No. 3: 7/29/1890) to No. 13: 10/7/1890), later appeared in cloth book form by Edward S. Ellis, under the imprint of The Penn Publishing Company of Philadelphia (1893).

Captain J. F. C. (James Fenimore Cooper) Adams and Captain "Bruin" Adams: This is perhaps the most important of all the pen names ascribed to Edward S. Ellis, since upon its verification stands or falls the Ellis ownership of no less than eight other pseudonyms used for Beadle. Not all eight have a direct link with Captain J. F. C. Adams, but all do depend upon that name at some stage for their connection with Ellis.

A "biography" by "Ralph Ringwood" (Capt. A. D. Hines) in No. 45 of "The Saturday Journal" (1/21/1871) stating Captain James Fenimore Cooper Adams to have been a nephew of James Capen Adams, the bear tamer (1807 to 1860) led to the name long being considered that of a real person. However, "On the Plains or The Race for Life" by Edward S. Ellis (Beadle's American Sixpenny Library No. 58: London: 12/1/1865) was reprinted as "The Fighting Trapper or Kit Carson to the Rescue" by Captain J. F. C. Adams (Beadle's Dime Library No. 68: 5/21/1879) (Sources: Copy of 59-Lon in the Rogers collection and "The House of Beadle & Adams": Vol. I: Page 206) and, therefore Adams must have been a pen name of Ellis.

I must add that, while the above is the most direct proof of ownership, the credit for establishing J. F. C. Adams as an Ellis nom de plume and not a real person rests with Professor Johannsen (See: "The House of Beadle & Adams": Vol. II: Pages 6/7).

Professor Johannsen has proved by actual comparison of texts that the following pen names were used for stories also published under the by-

line, Captain J. F. C. Adams; therefore, since Captain J. F. C. Adams was a pen name of Edward S. Ellis, these must also have been his pseudonyms:

Lieut. Ned Hunter: (Source: "House of Beadle & Adams": Vol. II. P. 149).

Charles E. La Salle: (Source: "House of Beadle & Adams": Vol. II. P. 178).

Billex Muller: (Source: "House of Beadle & Adams": Vol. II. P. 213).

Lieut. J. H. Randolph: (Source: "House of Beadle & Adams": Vol. II. P. 231).

George E. La Salle was used several times by Beadle & Adams in error for Charles E. La Salle. (Source "House of Beadle & Adams": Vol. II. P. 178).

Captain H. R. Millbank: (Source: "House of Beadle & Adams: Vol. II. P. 200). Professor Johannsen has proved by actual comparison of texts that Captain H. R. Millbank and Captain R. M. Hawthorne were credited with different editions of the same story.

Captain Latham C. Carleton: Munro's Seaside Library (Vol. XC. No. 1820: 5/3/1884): "Life on the Mountain and Prairie" by Edward S. Ellis is a reprint in one number of Munro's Ten Cent Novels Nos. 1 and 2: "The Hunters of Life on the Mountain and Prairie" (11/11/1863) and its sequel: "The Trapper's Retreat" (11/18/1863) by Captain Latham C. Carleton. This is the most straightforward proof that Latham C. Carleton was an Ellis pen name, but see also "The House of Beadle & Adams" (Vol. II. P. 49) for the original proof by Professor Johannsen.

Oswald A. Gwynne: "The Haunted Island or Adventures in the Land of the Aztecs" by Oswald A. Gwynne, a serial which commenced in Vol. XX. No. 518 (9/23/1876) of Frank Leslie's Boys' and Girls' Weekly, was reprinted as two cloth bound books by The Merzhon Company of New York in 1899, under the titles: "Through Jungle & Wilderness" and "The Land of Wonders," both by Edward S. Ellis.

(To be continued)

The Wild West Shows Pass in Grand Review

by J. Edward Leithead

continued

Boys Star Library (Frank Tousey)

#21, Nan and Nat, the Child Riders. (Boys of N. Y. Pocket Lib. #51).

#60, The Circus Wonder. (Boys of N. Y. Pocket Lib. 222)

#63, Bareback Tom, the Circus Wonder. (Boys of N.Y. Poc. Lib. 106)

#89, Jack Bruce, the Star of the Circus. (Boys of N. Y. Poc. Lib. 173)

#142, Little Corinne, The Pride of the Ring. A thrilling Story of Circus Life. By Lt. E. H. Kellogg.

#154, The Circus Runaway. (Boys of N. Y. Pocket Lib. #214).

Comic Library (Frank Tousey)

#75, Tumbling Tim, or, Traveling With a Circus (Boys of N. Y. #236 to 264).

#115, The Two Boy Clowns, or, A Summer With a Circus. By Tom Teaser.

Golden Library (Albert Sibley & Co.)

#22, Afloat With a Circus, or, The Diamond Seekers. By Henry L. Black (Reprinted in Brave and Bold #219).

Good News (Street & Smith)

#45 to 60, Slaves of the Circus, or, The Royal Amphitheater. By Walter Morris.

Happy Days (Frank Tousey)

#36 to 43, Barnum's Young Sandow, or, The Strongest Boy in the World. By P. T. Barnum (Reprinted in Pluck and Luck #413).

#78 to 85, The Boy Fire King, or, Barnum's Brightest Star. (Reprinted in Pluck and Luck #444).

Little Chief Library (Nickel Lib. Co.)

#115, Monte, the Animal King, or, The Mystery of the Circus. By Cal DeCastro.

New Sensation (N. L. Munro)

#30 to 34, Ida St. Clair, or, The Queen of the Trapeze. By Johnny Thompson.

#60, Godiva, or, The Queen of the Bicycle. Short Story. By E. Gyp.

New York Boys Library (Popular Pub. Co.)

#2, Ben, the Bareback Rider, or,

The Star of the Circus. By James L. Hutchinson.

#12, The Clown of the Circus. By James L. Hutchinson.

#13, Leon, the King of the Ring, or, The Dashing Boy Rider. By Hutchinson.

Nickel Library (Nickel Library Co.)

#26 (323) (644) (881), An Artful Dodger, or, Escape from the Circus Ring. By Dash Dale.

Nugget Library (Street & Smith)

#38, Tight Rope Tim, or, The Heir in Spangles. By Burke Brentford.

Old Cap Collier Library (N. L. Munro)

#596, The Clown Detective.

#661, Old Spangles, the Circus Detective.

#730, Old Grimes, the Carnival Detective.

Wide Awake Library (Frank Tousey)

#142, Dick Daring, the Bareback Rider.

#144, The Boy Clown, or, The Star of the Pantomime. (Boys of N. Y. #135 to 145)

#344, Fortunes of an Acrobat.

#427, The Boy Trapeze. By a Former Professional

#438, Sawdust Charlie, the Pet of the Ring. By an Old Ringmaster.

#470, Tumbling Tim, or, Traveling With a Circus. (Boys of N. Y. #236 to 264).

#567, Fred Hazzard, the Star of the Circus. By Horace Appleton.

#608, Out With Barnum. By Lt. E. H. Kellogg.

#702, Acrobat Ned, the Prince of the Air. By C. Little.

#758, Barnum's Hunters, or, Trapping Wild Animals for the Greatest Show on Earth. By Richard R. Montgomery.

#799, Denny, the Clown. A Story of Circus Life. By Corp. Morgan Rattler.

#816, Lion Luke, the Boy Animal Trainer. By Percy B. St. John.

#949, Rob Rider, the Circus Equestrian, or, Two Years under the Canvas. By George W. Coode.

#1084, The Two Boy Clowns, or, A Summer With a Circus. (Reprint of Comic Library #115)

#1126, Billy Button, the Young Clown and Bareback Rider. (Boys of N. Y. #272 to 283).

Young Sleuth Library (Frank Tousey)

#36, Young Sleuth's Great Circus Case, or, Bareback Bill's Last Act.

#87, Young Sleuth and the Runaway Circus Boys, or, Following a Pair of Wild New York Lads.

#140, Young Sleuth and the Boy Circus Rider, or, Baffling a Poor Lad's Foes.

Snap's (Frank Tousey)

#34, Tumbling Tim, or, Traveling With a Circus. By Peter Pad.

#35, Tim, the Boy Clown, or, Fun With an Old-Fashioned Circus. By Peter Pad.

#71, The Two Boy Clowns, or, A Summer With a Circus. By Tom Teaser.

#72, Krank, the Clown, or, Sawdust and Spangles. By Tom Teaser.

Motor Stories (Street & Smith)

#27, Motor Matt's Engagement, or On the Road With a Show.

#28, Motor Matt's Short Circuit, or, The Mahout's Vow.

#29, Motor Matt's Make-up, or, Playing a New Role.

Now, as to cloth-bound books on the circus. When "The Big Top" by Fred Bradna and Hartzell Spence was published in 1952, I bought a copy and read it at once, for I had seen Mr. Bradna many times as equestrian director of Barnum & Bailey and later of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows. I had also seen his wife, Madame Ella Bradna, in both shows. In her earlier days she was a marvelous equestrian; here I quote from a Barnum & Bailey program, season of 1914, Display No. 12, Ring No. 3: "A delightful demonstration of the latest and most artistic feats of equestrianism in which a gifted young rider and her active associate, riding

two mettled horses, perform notable feats. ELLA BRADNA and FRED DERRICK." Later, Madame Bradna was the star of displays featuring fine horses, an aviary and prize dogs, among which was a giant Alaskan huskie named "Zero."

I wrote Mr. Bradna, "Reading your wonderful book, 'The Big Top,' was almost like going back over all the circus performances I've attended in my fifty-six years, with you beside me to explain everything." He replied promptly from his home in Sarasota, Florida, the headquarters of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, and I certainly prize his letter. Just as I do the letter from Mr. Henry Ringling North, brother of Mr. John Ringling North, head of The Greatest Show on Earth, after he had read my circus article in Dime Novel Roundup for April 1951.

The following list of books on the circus is probably far from complete, but it contains some of the best. I have made no attempt to include juvenile books on the circus, which are many in number:

The Big Top. My Forty Years With the Greatest Show on Earth. By Fred Bradna as told to Hartzell Spence. New York: Simon and Schuster. 1952.

Hold That Tiger. By Mabel Stark as told to Gertrude Orr. Caldwell, Idaho: The Caxton Printers, Ltd. 1940.

Here Come the Elephants. By Gertrude Orr. Caldwell, Idaho: The Caxton Printers, Ltd. 1943.

Al G. Barnes, Master Showman. By Dave Robeson. As Told by Al G. Barnes. Caldwell, Idaho: The Caxton Printers, Ltd. 1936.

Jungle Performers. By Clyde Beatty and Earl Wilson. New York: Robert McBride & Co. 1941.

The Big Arena. By Clyde Beatty with Edward Anthony. New York: The Century Co. 1933.

Ways of the Circus. By George Conklin.

Under the Big Top. By Courtney Ryley Cooper. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1925. (Mr. Cooper was press agent for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus).

Circus Day. By Courtney Ryley Cooper. New York: Farrar & Rinehart. 1931.

Lions 'N' Tigers 'N' Everything. By Courtney Ryley Cooper. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1936.

Old Wagon Show Days. By Gil Robinson.

Careers of Danger and Daring (The Aerial Acrobat, The Wild Beast Tamer). By Cleveland Moffett.

The Autobiography of a Clown (Jules Turnour), as told to I. F. Marcossou.

The Training of Wild Animals. By F. C. Bostock.

This Way to the Big Show. The Life of Dexter Fellows. By Dexter W. Fellows and Andrew A. Freeman. New York: Halcyon House. 1936. (The circus half of this great book. Mr. Fellows was press agent for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus).

My Circus Life. By James Lloyd. Acrobats and Mountebanks. By Hougues Le Roux and Jules Carnier.

Memoirs of a Midget. By Walter de la Mare.

The Circus Lady. By J. De M. Robinson.

Hey There, Sucker. By Jack Dads-well.

Barnum. By M. R. Werner. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co. 1923.

Life of P. T. Barnum, Written by Himself.

Through the Back Door of the Circus with George Brinton Beal. Springfield, Mass.: McLoughlin Bros., Inc. 1938.

Circus Doctor. By J. Y. Henderson, D. V. M., Chief Veterinarian of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus as told to Richard Taplinger. Boston: Little, Brown and Co. 1951.

Pink Lemonade. By Maxwell Fred-eric Coplan. Commentary by F. Beverly Kelley. New York: Whittlesey House. McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc. 1945. (The finest book of circus pictures you'll ever see).

British Circus Life. By Lady Eleanor Smith and John Hinde. London: George G. Harrop & Co., Ltd. 1948.

Seventy Years a Showman. By "Lord" George Sanger.

Clown, by Emmett Kelly with F. Beverly Kelley, New York, Prentice Hall, Inc. 1954.

The Other Side of the Circus. By Edwin P. Norwood. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday, Doran & Co., Inc. 1923

The Circus Menagerie. By Edwin P. Norwood. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday, Doran & Co., Inc. 1929.

(Mr. Norwood also wrote a series of juvenile circus books about a clown "Diggeldy Dan." While he was press agent for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, I was working in a Philadelphia bookstore, one of my duties being window-trimmer, and when The Greatest Show on Earth came to town for a two-week stand, I made a circus window display, using, besides circus books, the then popular "Diggeldy Dan" clown dolls, which so pleased Mr. Norwood he gave me a couple of passes to the show. He was at the main entrance when I arrived at the show grounds, 11th and Erie Avenue, and the passes were exchanged for grandstand seats. It was a great show, as always. Mabel Stark and her performing tigers were with it that season).

The End

Since the completion of Mr. Leith-head's article "The Wild West Shows Pass in Grand Review" another important book on the subject has been published. It is "Annie Oakley of the Wild West," by Walter Havighurst, published by the Macmillan Company, New York. A completely wonderful account of Annie Oakley and Buffalo Bill's Wild West show, with many fine illustrations.

A NEW BOOK ABOUT TEXAS JACK!

Subscribers to DIME NOVEL ROUNDUP who are interested in famous Indian-fighters and plainsmen (and particularly collectors of Buffalo Billiana) will be glad to hear that the life and adventures of Texas Jack (J. B. Omohundro), one-time plains partner of Col. Cody, will be published by the time you read this notice. Title is BUCKSKIN AND SATIN, the author is Herschel C. Lo-

gan, the publishers are The Stackpole Company, Telegraph Press Bldg., Harrisburg, Penna. This is a hardcover book, price \$3.95, and the first real biography of Texas Jack to be published, to take its place beside the books about Buffalo Bill, Wild Bill, Pawnee Bill and California Joe. If you cannot obtain it at your local bookstore, write to the publishers at the above address.

—J. Edward Leithead

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106. Roy E. Swanstrom, 11901 Biscayne Blvd., Green Acres Trailer Park, Miami 39, Fla.
213. Howard B. Silsbee, 85 Boyden Ave., Maplewood, N. J. (New member).

Statement of the Ownership, Management, Circulation, Etc., required by the Acts of Congress of August 24, 1912, and March 3, 1933

Of the Dime Novel Round-Up published monthly at Lawrence, Kansas, for October 1954.

State of Massachusetts ss.
County of Bristol

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Edward T. LeBlanc who having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the owner of Dime Novel Round-Up and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of

the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher Edward T. LeBlanc, 36 Taylor St., Fall River, Mass.

Editor, Edward T. LeBlanc, same
Managing Ed., Edw. T. LeBlanc, same
Business Mgr., Edw. T. LeBlanc, same

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

Edward T. LeBlanc, 36 Taylor St., Fall River, Mass.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.)

None

Signed

Edward T. LeBlanc

Owner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of October, 1954.

(Seal) C. H. Camille Whitehead
(My commission expires May 12, 1955)

(Advertisements)

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Books Must be first printing and in reasonably good condition

CHARLES K. BOSTON

521 N. Bristol Ave.

West Los Angeles, Calif.